ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

Nineteenth Anniversary

OF THE

Shelby Missionary Baptist

ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

LIBERTY CHURCH,

Shelby County, Alabama,

On the 8th, 10th and 11th of October, 1870.

COLUMBIANA, ALABAMA:
WILLIS ROBERTS, PRINTER.
1870.

MINUTES.

SATURDAY, October 8th, 1870.

The Ninteenth Anniversary of the SHELBY BAPTIST ASSOSIATION, convened with Liberty Church, on Saturday before the 2d Sabbath in October, 1870.

Elder T. C. Boykin, who was appointed at our last session to preach the Introductory Sermon, being absent, Elder J. C. Hand preached from the 9th verse, III chapter of Paul's first epistle to the Corinthians: "For we are laborers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, *ye* are God's building."

After an intermission of thirty minutes, the Delegates assembled in the school house and were called to order by Elder T. P. Holcomb, former Moderator, and the Association opened with prayer by the Moderator.

Letters from the Churches were called for, received, read, and the names of the Delegates enrolled.*

Proceeded to the election of Moderator and Clerk, which resulted in the choice of Elder T. P. Holcomb, Moderator, and C. W. O'Hara, Clerk.

Opened the door for the reception of newly constituted Churches. None.

Called for Correspondence, when Brethren S. J. Thompson, K. J. Thomas and T. N. Mundine were received as messengers from the Coosa River Association; Bro. Joab M. Langston, from the Mulberry; Bro. John W. Inzer, from the Ten Island; Bro. James Grimes, from the Canaan; Bro. R. Blake, from the Tuscaloosa; Bro. W. K. Deshazo, from the Cahaba Valley, to whom we manifested our fellowship and welcomed among us by the Moderator's extending to them the right hand of fellowship.

Appointed Committees:—

ON PREACHING.—R. Owen, Sr., and W. V. Arnold, from the First District; N. Thomas and Wesley Armstrong, from the Second, together with the Deacon of Liberty Church. For the arrangement of the same during the session see Appendix E.

ON FINANCE.—Wm. Watson, L. J. Hand and J. J. Miner.

ON DOCUMENTS.—J. C. Hand, Wm. Watson, J. H. R. Carden, R. Owen, Sr., and W. W. Armstrong.

ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.—W. W. Armstrong, J. C. Hand T. C. Boykin, Wm. Watson, L. J. Hand and J. L. Peters.

ON MISSIONS.—J. H. R. Carden, J. C. Hand, N. Thomas, Wesley Armstrong and R. J. Hurt.

* For Delegates names see table of stalistics.

Visiting brethren were invited to seats. After singing and prayer by Bro. J. H. R. Carden, adjourned until Monday morning 9 o'clock.

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SUNDAY, October 9th.

On Sabbath the Missionary Sermon was preached by Elder T. C. Boykin, under appointment of last session, from the 23rd verse, IXth chapter of St. Luke: "And he said to *them* all: if any *man* will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me." A collection was taken up of $8 64 for the support of Domestic Missions.

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MONDAY, October 10th.

The Asaociation met in the Church, pursuant to adjournment and was opened with prayer by Rev. T. C. Boykin.

On motion, the Constitution, Abstract of Principles and Rules of Decorum were read. Called the roll and marked absentees.

Returned Correspondence:—

To the Mulberry Association—Wm. Watson, W. V. Arnold and T. Fancher.

To the Cahaba Valley—C. W. O'Hara and W. C. Powell.

To the Canaan—T. C. Boykin, J. H. R. Carden and L. J. Hand.

To the Tuscaloosa—W. V. Arnold and J. L. Peters.

To the Coosa River—T. C. Boykin, A. A. Sterrett and D. T. Castleberry.

To the Ten Island—J. H. R. Carden.

To the Alabama Baptist State Convention—T. C. Boykin, T. P. Holcomb and J. L. Peters, also any other brother that may be present at the Convention will be recognized by this Association as a messenger.

Appointed Elder J. C. Hand to preach the next Introductory Sermon, J. H. R. Carden, alternate. Elder J. H. R. Carden to preach the Missionary Sermon, T. C. Boykin, alternate.

Appointed the next session of this body to be held with Cahaba Valley Church, commencing on Saturday before the Second Sabbath in October, 1871.

Report of the on Domestic Missionaries was received.—(See Appendix A.)

On motion of Bro. Nathaniel Thomas—

Resolved, That inasmuch as the Domestic Mission Board, at Marion, Ala., with which we are connected in our missionary operations, has increased the salary of our missionaries ($200) to $250 for the past year's services, we do also increase the salary promised them by us ($200) as follows:—Having paid $98 at our last session, we do now pay $110 24

in cash, and 39 60, (the amount due on previous pledges) when collected, making in all $247.84.

Elder T. P. Holcomb was appointed Domestic Missionary of this Association for the ensuing year, by acclamation, to preach the GLORIOUS GOSPEL OF OUR BLESSED SAVIOR to the destitute within our bounds; to be without the care of churches—to labor during the whole associational year, or such a portion of the time, as his physical strength will admit, and the places or neighborhoods to be considered as destitute to be left entirely at his own discretion. And we, the members of this Association, do faithfully promise and pledge ourselves to return $200 to our blessed Lord and Master, (which has been so graciously given unto us) by paying it to our beloved brother for his services. And, not only do we send him by returning a portion of the temporal blessing with which we have been blessed, to the GREAT GIVER of them, but we do faithfully promise to remember him at a Throne of Grace, and to spend a portion of every Sabbath in special prayer and supplication in his behalf.

For the above a collection was taken up of $27 50, and $117 was made up by subscription, to be paid during the year.

Report of the Committee on Finance was received and committee discharged. (See Appendix B.)

Report of Committee on Documents was received and committee discharged. (See Appendix C.)

Report of the Committee on Sabbath Schools was read, and on motion of Bro. T. C. Boykin, was made first in order of business Tuesday morning.

After prayer by Bro. J. H. R. Carden, adjourned until Tuesday 9½ o'clock, A. M.

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TUESDAY, October, 11th.

Met pursuant to adjournment, joined in singing. Prayer by Bro. W. W. Armstrong.

The Report of the Committee on Sabbath Schools was reread, received and committee discharged. (See Appendix D.)

On motion, the Committee on Missions was relieved.

The District Meeting of the 1st District will be held with Union Church, Bibb county, on Friday before the 4th Sabbath in August, 1871.

The District Meeting of the 2nd District will be held with Mt. Calvary Church, on Saturday before the 2nd Sabbath in August, 1871.

Directed that the Clerk pay $1 50 (the amount sent up for Indian Missions) over to Bro. M. T. Sumner, Corresponding Secretary of the Domestic and Indian Mission Board, at Marion, Ala.

Directed that the Clerk superintend the printing of as many minutes as the funds will justify, reserve seventy-five copies for correspondence, transcribe the present minutes in the Association Book and receive $15 50 for his services.

Appointed Bro. Robert Nolen distributing agent for the 1st District, Bro. N. Thomas for the 2nd District.

The following Preamble and Resolutions were adopted:

Having witnessed the evil influences of Pedo-Baptist and Campbellite usages, we, the Shelby Association, therefore—

Resolved, That we regard the Baptism of Campbellites and Pedo-Baptists as unscriptural.

Resolved, That sprinkling and pouring is without scriptural authority, and therefore sinful.

Whereas, Zion seems to be in a languishing condition in the bounds of this Association, and as she is the light of the world and at the same time dependent upon God for the Holy Spirit's power, for light and power, therefore—

Resolved, That the Association earnestly request every Church in her bounds to establish a weekly prayer meeting, and make special prayer for God to revive his work abundantly throughout the Association, and that our young brethren be urged to take part in these meetings—that every head of a family be urged to pray daily with his family.

The following query was presented, and after some discussion was laid over until our next annual session: Query—Is it right for Baptist Ministers to affiliate under any circumstances, with Pedo-Baptist in their meetings.

Resolved, That the Association return thanks to the brethren and friends of Liberty Church, and community, for their hospitality during the session.

Prayer was offered by Bro. W. W. Armstrong. A hymn was sung and the delegates gave each other, and the congregation, the parting hand and then adjourned to meet at the time and place designated.

T. P. HOLCOMB, Moderator.

C. W. O'Hara, Clerk.

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(APPENDIX A)—REPORT OF DOMESTIC MISSIONARIES.

Dear Brethren: Having been appointed at your last session, to preach the Gospel to the destitute within the bounds of this Association, we, therefore, report as follows: We have travelled 2,800 miles, preached about two hundred sermons, besides other addresses, exhortations and personal religious instruction. The results of our labor is not as encouraging as we would desire, but we have done the best we could. The attendance was generally small on week days, only a few manifested any interest in the cause of Christ.—

We think the present plan of missionary operations is not the best to reach the class of persons most needy. The most destitute and needy are engaged in laboring for coal-mining and other manufacturing companies, and very few will come to preaching. There are several points entirely destitute of Baptist preaching, Limeville, Shelby Springs and the coal-mining region in the western part of the Association, also the Spring Creek neighborhood in the southeastern part of the Association. We were generally received cordially by those who attended, and good attention was given to the word preached. In some instances Christians rejoiced while sinners were seen to tremble, and when opportunity was given, came forward for prayer. Several were converted, some fourteen were baptised in connection with our labors. We baptised two and received two for baptism.

J. H. R. CARDEN,
J. C. HAND. } Missionaries.

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(APPENDIX B)—REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

Sent up from the Churches for Minutes	$25 35
" " " Associational purposes	15 75
Total	$40 10
Sent up from the Churches for Dom. Missions	$49 25
Collected on Sabbath for Domestic Missions	8 64
Collected on subscription for 1870	52 35
Total for Domestic Missions	$110 24
Sent up from the Churches for Indian Mission	$1 50

Respectfully submitted,

WM. WATSON,
L. J. HAND,
J. J. MINOR, } Committee.

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(APPENDIX C)—REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DOCUMENTS.

We, your Committee, having examined the letters from the Churches, find nothing of special interest to report. We respectfully recommend to the members of Baptist Churches to patronize our denominational literature, viz: The Baptist, S. W. Baptist & Index, Kind Words, The Child's Delight and The Home and Foreign Journal.

Respectfully submitted,

L. J. HAND, Chairman.

(APPENDIX D)—REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Your Committee would rejoice to be able to report a large increase in the number of Sabbath Schools within our bounds —this we cannot do for want of information, but are satisfied that this work is dear to our brethren. What we need, is a more persevering effort, and a better system of instruction. We think if the brethren in the various portions of the Association would act as volunteer agents, great good could be accomplished in the work. We hope to hear that a number of brethren will act in this capacity. We deem it unnecessary to say more on this subject, and close this report by recommending the churches to send up in their annual letters, full statistics of their Sabbath Schools.

J. L. PETERS, Chairman.

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(APPENDIX E)—ARRANGEMENT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PREACHING.

Elder J. C. Hand preached the Introductory Sermon, under appointment of last session, Saturday, at 11 o'clock A. M. Elder Joab M. Langston preached at 2 o'clock, P. M; Elder James Grimes at night; Elder T. C. Boykin, followed by J. C. Hand, preached the Missionary Sermon, under the appointment of last session. Sunday, 11 o'clock A. M., Elder W. W. Armstrong, Sunday night. Elders T. C. Boykin and Joab M. Langston, Monday night.

CORRESPONDING LETTER.

To SISTER ASSOCIATIONS: Receive this, our Letter, with our Minutes and Messengers, as a token of our Christian regard towards you, and the expression of our desire to continue correspondence with you. Viewing ourselves as coworkers, in the great cause of Truth, and as gentle, yet firm opposers of error, we wish to keep a close alliance. Our next session will be held at Cahaba Valley Church, Bibb county, commencing on Saturday before the 2nd Sabbath in October 1871, at which time meet with us. May God bless you abundantly. Amen. T. P. HOLCOMB, Moderator.

C. W. O'HARA, Clerk.

Received of C. W. O'Hara, Clerk and Treasurer, $55 12, for services as Missionary. October 11th, 1870.

J. H. R. CARDDN.

Received of C. W. O'Hara, Clerk and Treasurrr, $55 12, for services as Missionary. October 11th, 1870.

J. C. HAND.

Received of C. W. O'Hara, Clerk and Treasurer, $25 50, for services to be rendered as Missionary. Oct. 11th, 1870.

T. P. HOLCOMB.

	CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	P. OFFICE.	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	Baptised	Rec'd by Letter	Dis. by Letter	Excluded	Restored	Died	Total	Minutes	Asst Purposes	Dom. Mission
Second Dist. First District	Cahaba Valley	R. Wood.	Montevallo	R. Wood,* R. Owen, Sr. M. Kendrick	11	6	6	1	..	1	139	$2 00	$2 00	$
	Dogwood Grove	J. C. Hand.	"	John Holsomback and Wm. Archer.					..			2 00		
	Enon	J. M. Langston	Centerville	G. Jones S. Johnson,* and L. R. Russell*.	2	1	5				48	3 00		2 25
	Montevallo	T. C. Boykin.	Montevallo	Thos. McConaughy,* Wm. Burns* & R. W. Nolen*		1	4	1			44	2 00	2 00	11 50
	New Antioch	.....	"	No representation, but funds								1 00		
	Six Mile	R. Wood	Brierfield	W. V. Arnold, P. M. Fancher,* and J. R. Peters.		1	31	..		1	33	2 00	2 00	
	Union, Bibb	R. Wood	Montevallo	T. Fancher, James Lucus,* and Wm. Champion.*	2	8	2		2		23	1 00	1 00	
	Union, Shelby	T. C. Boykin.	"	T. C. Boykin, Wm. Russell, and Wm. Lucus.	3	3			1			50	75	1 50
	Bethesda	W. W. Armstrong.	Wilsonville	C. W. O'Hara, W. C. Powell and R. Taylor	11	2	2	4	3		74	1 35	1 00	
	Beaver Creek	J. H. R. Carden	Columbiana	W. Armstrong, G. Jones* and Thos. Elliott	2	4	6		2		36	2 00	1 50	
	Columbiana	T. C. Boykin	Columbiana	Wm. Davis, J. R. Morgan,* and D. T. Castleberry*			11	1			16	1 50		20 00
	Evergreen	J. C. Hand.	"	J. C. Hand, Wm. Watson and J. L. Hand.		3			1		14	75	75	14 00
	Liberty	T. P. Holcomb.	"	T. P. Holcomb, J. H. R. Carden, & W. L. Gardner	1		2			1	70	2 00	1 00	
	Mt. Calvary	T. P. Holcomb.	"	W. W. Armstrong, R. J. Hurt, and N. Thomas	1	1	7	4			47	2 00	1 00	
	Pleasant Hill	.....	"	Joshua Davis, J. Y. Hail,* and John Jones.*			5				30	1 50	2 00	.....
	Salem	T. P. Holcomb.	"	J. J. Miner E. M. Kendrick,* and A. J. Kendrick.	3						13	75	75	
				☞ Absentees marked thus *	33	27	81	11	8	3	587	25 35	15 75	49 25

Received of C. W. O'Hara, Clerk and Treasurer, $25 35c. for printing these minutes.

WILLIS ROBERTS.

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